Longevity of Hirakud and Machhkund Projects

264. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the longevity of Hirakud and Machhkund projects in Orissa has reduced significantly; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to protect these two projects from any further danger?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) No, Sir. There is no danger to the longevity of Hirakud dam. However, no such matter has been reported to the Centre by the State regarding Machhkund Project.

(b) Does not arise.

Status of Sardar Sarovar Dam

265. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of Sardar Sarovar Dam;

(b) whether it is possible to attain a minimum required height to divert water for irrigation and power generation as decided by SSCAS in June, 1996;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) At present, effective height of the Sardar Sarovar Dam is being maintained at EL 81.5 m.

(b) to (d) A minimum water level of 110.63 metre with a dam height of 112.5 metre is necessary to derive partial benefits of irrigation and power. However, in view of the Supreme Court orders of 5.5.1995 on the Writ Petition of Narmada Bachao Andolan raising of the spillway blocks beyond the effective height of 81.5 metre has not been possible so far. An Interlocutory Application of the Government of Gujarat filed on 9.12.1996 seeking permission to raise the effective height of the spillway portion of the dam from the present level of 81.5 metre to 85 metre is still pending before the Hon'ble Supreme Court. The matter was last heard on 16.4.1998 and has now been listed for further hearing on 13.08.1998.

जल संसाधन सेक्टर के संबंध में डा० अलघ समिति की सिफारिशें

266. **श्री अनन्तराय देवशंकर दवे:** क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) भारतीय जल संसाधन क्षेत्र की समस्याओं का समाधान करने के लिये सरकार द्वारा गठित की गई डा० अलघ समिति द्वारा अब तक कितनी सिफारिशें प्रस्तुत की गई हैं;

(ख) इन सिफारिशों के मुख्य उद्देश्यों सहित इनका ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) क्या सरकार ने इन सिफारिशों पर गंभीरतापूर्वक विचार किया है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो सरकार द्वारा इन सिफारिशों को लागू करने के लिये क्या कार्यवाही की गई है?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सोमपाल): (क) भारतीय जल संसाधन क्षेत्र से संबंधित समस्याओं को हल करने के लिये जल संसाधन मंत्रालय द्वारा कोई ऐसी समिति गठित नहीं की गई है।

(ख) से (घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Land under irrigation

267. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total cultivable land in different States;

(b) the total land, out of that, which has been brought under irrigation, so far;

(c) whether any State-wise target has been fixed to bring additional acrages of land under irrigation by 2000 A.D.; and